

HO-400  
MAC ALPINE  
Ellicott City  
Private

circa 1860

Mac Alpine was built by James MacKubin circa 1860 for Gabriella, his second wife and daughter of Major Peter who made his home at Linwood in Ellicott City. The early history of this property is very much attached to the history of neighboring Gray Rock where James MacKubin lived with his first wife, Comfort Augusta Dorsey and for a short time with Gabriella, who was not enamoured with this home.

Built in two sections of frame resting on a stone foundation, Mac Alpine has a two story high, two bay wide, gabled roof connector which serves as a link to the north and south wings.

The north section, three bays wide, two bays deep and three stories high faces west. It is representative of the Second Empire Style with its mansard roof and gabled roof dormer windows holding roman arched windows. This style was extremely modern in its day and was not a revival of the Romanesque or even the French Renaissance but a new expression finding its inspiration in France's second empire under Napoleon III. This main section is attached by the connector to a south service wing which faces south, three bays wide and one bay deep whose gabled roof (running east-west) intersects with the gabled roof (running north-south) of the connector.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME** MacAlpine

HISTORIC Rebecca's Lot

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 3621 MacAlpine Rd.

6th

CITY, TOWN Ellicott City

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Howard

STATE Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☒ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Carl B. Papa

Telephone #: 730-5482

STREET & NUMBER 3621 MacAlpine Rd.

Maryland 21043

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hall of Records

Liber #: 683

Folio #: 222

STREET & NUMBER

Howard County Court House

Maryland 21043

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

May 1977

— FEDERAL ☒ STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

Maryland STATE

## 7. DESCRIPTION

N. R. FIELD SHEET

HO-400  
District  
2

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Mac Alpine

Mac Alpine sits back from the east side of Mac Alpine Road approached by a circular driveway south of Frederick Rd. Mac Alpine is composed of a three story high, three bay wide, two bay deep, mansard roof frame north wing, and a two and a half story, three bay wide, one bay deep, gabled roof south wing, oriented west and south respectively, connected by a two story high flat roofed two bay wide hyphen with first floor north bay entrance on the west elevation.

The South Wing

The earliest section of the house, the south wing is a three bay wide, one bay deep, two and a half story high, shiplap yellow frame house resting on a stone foundation whose central rectangular door faces south, surmounted by a three lite transom and flat wooden lintel, and flanked by flat wooden pilasters.

Rectangular first floor windows, decorated with projecting flat wooden sills, flat wooden lintels and black shutters rest at each side of the entrance which is approached by three stone steps and five wooden steps leading to an open landing bounded by a wooden railing. Fenestration is proportionally scaled, vertically aligned, double-hung with six-over-six lites. Three second floor windows rest above in the south wall, while horizontal rectangular double-hung cellar windows with three-over-three lites rest in the east and west bays. A wide wooden belt separates the stone foundation from the 1st floor level on each elevation. A wide projecting wooden cornice crowns the south elevation.

The east and west elevations hold a similar first and 2nd floor window with a three lite attic fan light, decorated with a full arched wooden lintel and key and projecting flat woodensill.

The west elevation holds a similar cellar window to those on the south while the east elevation has a central rectangular ground floor entrance surmounted by a flat wooden lintel and flanked by flat pilasters. Two double-hung windows rest on each side, that in the south bay holding six-over-six lites, that in the north bay holding six-over-six lites. A brick chimney rises on the west.

The Hyphen or Connector

The connector on the east elevation holds two first and second floor windows, similar to those described. Two 6-6 lite casement windows at the ground level created by the slope of the laad from west to east downward are decorated with flat, projecting wooden sills.

The two bay wide connector has a one story high shed roofed open porch which runs along the west elevation supported by two square posts and one pilaster on the south wall of the main section of the house. Two wooden steps lead to the wooden landing supported by two brick piles.

A rectangular entrance door rests in the north bay surmounted by a three lite transom with a first floor window similar to those described resting in the south bay. Two second floor windows rest above.

The North Section

The north section and main body is a latter addition constructed

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The North Section

by James P. Mac Kubin in circa 1860. It is three bays wide, two bays deep and three stories high with three gabled roof dormer windows inset into the east and west sides of the mansard roof, and two gabled roof dormer windows inset into the north and south sides of the mansard roof. Those in the north and south bays of the east and west elevation hold full-arched double-hung windows with two-over-two lites decorated by scrolled brackets leading from the flat pilasters on each side of the window, which is surmounted by a broken deeply molded pediment. Those on the north and south elevations also follow this form. The central dormers of the east and west elevations hold two full arched double-hung windows with one-over-one lites separated and flanked by similar pilasters and scrolled brackets, surmounted by a single pediment.

A one story high hipped roof open porch whose intersecting hipped roof mid section extends westward to create a porte cochere extends along the west elevation of the house. Four square posts decorated on each side by two vertical rectangular recesses separated by molding  $3/4$  of the way up rest on square bases along with two similar pilasters attached to each side of the west wall which support the roof. Four similar columns support the west end of the porte cochere

A wooden railing decorated with geometric shapes runs along the perimeter of the open porch. A deeply cut molded wooden cornice decorates the roof line. Four wooden steps lead to the open porch and the central rectangular double wooden paneled entrance door which is painted black and is surmounted by a four lite transom and flat wooden lintel and flanked by wooden shutters. A rectangular first floor window, similar to those described, rests in the north and south bays while three second floor windows rest above. A wooden belt runs along the roof line and serves as a continuous lintel for each of the second floor windows. A molded wooden cornice above separates the second and third floors.

The south elevation holds a first and second floor window in the west bay. The first floor window was a jib window originally, as its base paneling beneath indicated, but is now a double-hung window similar to the others, though it has no shutters.

The north elevation holds two bay windows rising from a stone foundation, characterized by stone quoining and holding a square, one lite window surmounted by a flat stone lintel located in the mid section of the east bay, which may at one time have been a doorway.

The bay windows hold on each of their three sides double-hung, rectangular, windows with 4-over-4 lites, decorated with shutters and rectangular panels beneath each window. A deeply cut cornice separates the first and second floors, indicating the bay windows extended only to the first floor, originally, and then a second floor was added later.

The east elevation holds a one time central and north bay jib window, now similar to the others. In addition, a second floor 4-4 lite french door lies in the south bay surmounted by a two lite transom which is screened in for protection since no second floor veranda now exists.

A central batton wood door rests at foundation level with two 6 lite windows to the south and one 6 lite window to the north.

6. SIGNIFICANCE      MacAlpine							
<b>PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b> <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century</div> </div>							
<b>SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)</b> Circa 1860							
<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 25%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal  <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic  <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture  <input type="checkbox"/> Art  <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce  <input type="checkbox"/> Communications  <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation             </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 25%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Education  <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  <input type="checkbox"/> Industry  <input type="checkbox"/> Invention  <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape  <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture  <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  <input type="checkbox"/> Military  <input type="checkbox"/> Music             </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 25%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political  <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- losophy  <input type="checkbox"/> Science  <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture  <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- itarian  <input type="checkbox"/> Theater  <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation             </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 25%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)  <hr/><hr/><hr/><hr/><hr/><hr/><hr/><hr/> </td> </tr> </table>				<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Invention <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- losophy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- itarian <input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Historic Name - Rebecca's Lot and Smith's Fortune</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">The history of MacAlpine and Grey Rock are intertwined as both were the homes of James Mackubin who came from Strawberry Hill in Annapolis to settle in Howard County. He found a bride here, Comfort Augusta Dorsey, daughter of Charles Worthington Dorsey and niece of Thomas Beale Dorsey, owner of Grey Rock which was then referred to as his "dwelling plantation". Comfort was born at Whitehall on April 12, 1831 and married James MacKubin November 9, 1854. According to the Dorsey family, she and James lived at Grey Rock with her first cousin's husband, Dr. Arthur Pue. Comfort died on August 3, 1858, only four years after their marriage. At about this time Thomas Beale Dorsey Pue, son and heir of Grey Rock decided to go west and sell the property with Arthur Pue, his father, acting "under and by virtue of a power of Attorney", as executor. James MacKubin bought Grey Rock and some 404 acres for \$32,000, a considerable sum for those days. Here he lived for a time with his second wife, Gabriella Peter, daughter of Major G.W., Peter who bought Linwood in Ellicott City from Robert Hare. (Mr. Hare built Linwood and later The Oaks.) She was supposedly a descendant of Martha Washington's and was born April 22, 1844, almost 7 years his junior. She lived to be seventy-six, surviving her husband by some sixteen years. She did not find Grey Rock to her liking and on December 30, 1862 James sold Grey Rock to his first father-in-law, Charles Worthington Dorsey who immediately leased it back to him (Howard County Deeds 22-221) for \$16,000 or \$960 per year or \$480 semi-annually. On August 18, 1864 James sub-leased Grey Rock to John and Sarah Herbert (Howard County 23-337).</p> <p>By 1878 he was securely established at MacAlpine and John Herbert at Grey Rock for The Hopkins Atlas of 1878 indicates this to be so.</p> <p>In the Land Records Office of Howard County in Volume 2 of the Transfer Book, folio 529, 1868, James MacKubin is noted as making new improvements under "Additional Returns".</p> <p>In 1869 John Herbert transferred 42 acres of Grey Rock to James MacKubin. These 42 acres comprise the original acreage of MacAlpine which is described in the following sub-lease on August 18, 1864 between James MacKubin and John H. and Sarah A. Herbert:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">... stone marked "H" north 59<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>, west 31<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> perches to stone close to a marked white oak north 71<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>, west 91 <math>\frac{1}{10}</math> perches to center of road (49 <math>\frac{1}{10}</math>) along road north 15<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> east 19 <math>\frac{1}{5}</math> perches north 8<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> east 28 perches north 9<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> east 21 <math>\frac{3}{10}</math> perches to South side of Frederick</p>							

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Turnpike along the road.<sup>1</sup>

Between the years 1859 and 1869 we see several transactions occurring in regard to Grey Rock. MacAlpine was built during that time, probably before the Civil War for the following list of slaves of James MacKubin was found:

<u>Names of Slaves</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Physical Condition</u>	<u>Slave for</u>
Charles Rawlings	1	60	male	Healthy	Life
John Ireland	2	43	"	"	"
Lucy Ireland	3	45	female	"	"
Eueline Ireland	4	24	"	"	"
Ann L.A. Ireland	5	9	"	"	"
George Ireland	6	7	male	"	"
Emily Ireland	7	4	female	"	"
Rebecca Ireland	8	1	"	"	"
Henry (son of Eueline)	9	4	male	"	"
Chary (child)	10	1	female	"	"
Daniel Webster	11	14	male	"	7 years

There was also a house south of the main house used for slave quarters.

I believe the service wing facing south was built first circa 1860 and very soon after the main body or Victorian wing was added. The improvements made in 1868 may be the erection of this structure.

James and Gabriella raised five children here; Ella, Emily, George, Mildred and John MacKubin. Emily married and legend relates she was never let back into the house again. George, the oldest, who was supposedly born at Gray Rock left Howard County and went to Kent Island. Ella, Mildred and Emily inherited MacAlpine. Ella lived there until August 27, 1946, when she, the sole surviving heir sold MacAlpine to Marcus A. Wakefield, Jr. to develop the lovely residential area seen today.

On October 12, 1946 Marcus A. Wakefield, Jr. conveyed MacAlpine and lots 28, 29, 10, and 11 to Isabel B. and Elmer C. Covey (193-217 H.C.)

On July 11, 1952 Elmer conveyed Mac Alpine to Isabel B. Covey. (233-505).

On May 22, 1962 Isabel B. Covey conveyed MacAlpine to Albert S. and Elsie B. Singleton (383-527).

On June 7, 1962 Albert S. and Elsie B. Singleton conveyed MacAlpine to Herman A. and Aphrodite DiBrandi (384-519).

On June 28, 1965 Mr. and Mrs. DiBrandi conveyed lots 28 (MacAlpine) and 29 to Juanita B. McIntosh (438-102).

On August 24, 1965 Juanita B. McIntosh conveyed MacAlpine to Carl C. and Jewell P. Hall (441-287) who conveyed lots 28 and 29 to William S. and Marian H. Clark.

<sup>1</sup>Howard County Land Records, (Liber 23, folio 337).

On October 5, 1967 Wm. S. and Marion H. Clark conveyed lot 28 (MacAlpine) only to Patricia Y. and Edwin K. Wharton (476-652).

On February 24, 1972 Mr. & Mrs. Wharton conveyed MacAlpine (lot 28) to Peter F. Van Sicler, Jean L. Van Sicler, Peter J. Benson, and Darla M. Benson (585-673).

On December 15, 1972 The Siclers and Bensons conveyed MacAlpine (Lot 28) to Michael T. and Margaret Maken (618-624).

On May 20, 1974 the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. Papa acquired MacAlpine (683-222).

Architecturally MacAlpine is a composition of two houses and a connector. The south section of the house, facing south, is simpler and more straightforward in treatment, while the north section of the house, facing west is a fine example of the adaption of the Second Empire Style in Howard County. It takes its name from the reign of Napoleon III (1852-1870).

Its high mansard roof with inset gabled roof dormers holding roman windows is representative of this style which was a "consciously 'modern' movement, deriving its prestige from contemporary Paris, not from any period of the past like the Greek, the Gothic, or even the Renaissance Revivals".<sup>1</sup>

A dormer window on the north wall adds to the general feeling of this style.

For these reasons, MacAlpine should be considered for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places, the State Planning Program for Critical Areas and any local landmark legislation.

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<sup>1</sup>Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780, p. 103, MIT Press, 1969.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Interview at MacAlpine with Mrs. Carl B. Papa, May 9, 1977.
2. Howard County Records, Howard County Court House at Ellicott City.
3. Interview by phone with Dr. Caleb Dorsey.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

Please see attachment 1, tax map 24 .7 Acres p.1006

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see attachment 1, tax map 24

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland  
STATE

Howard  
COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Planning Consultant  
ORGANIZATION

May, 1977  
DATE

Comprehensive Planning Office, 3450 Courthouse Drive  
STREET & NUMBER

465-5000 Ext 257  
TELEPHONE

Ellicott City, Maryland 21043  
CITY OR TOWN

STATE

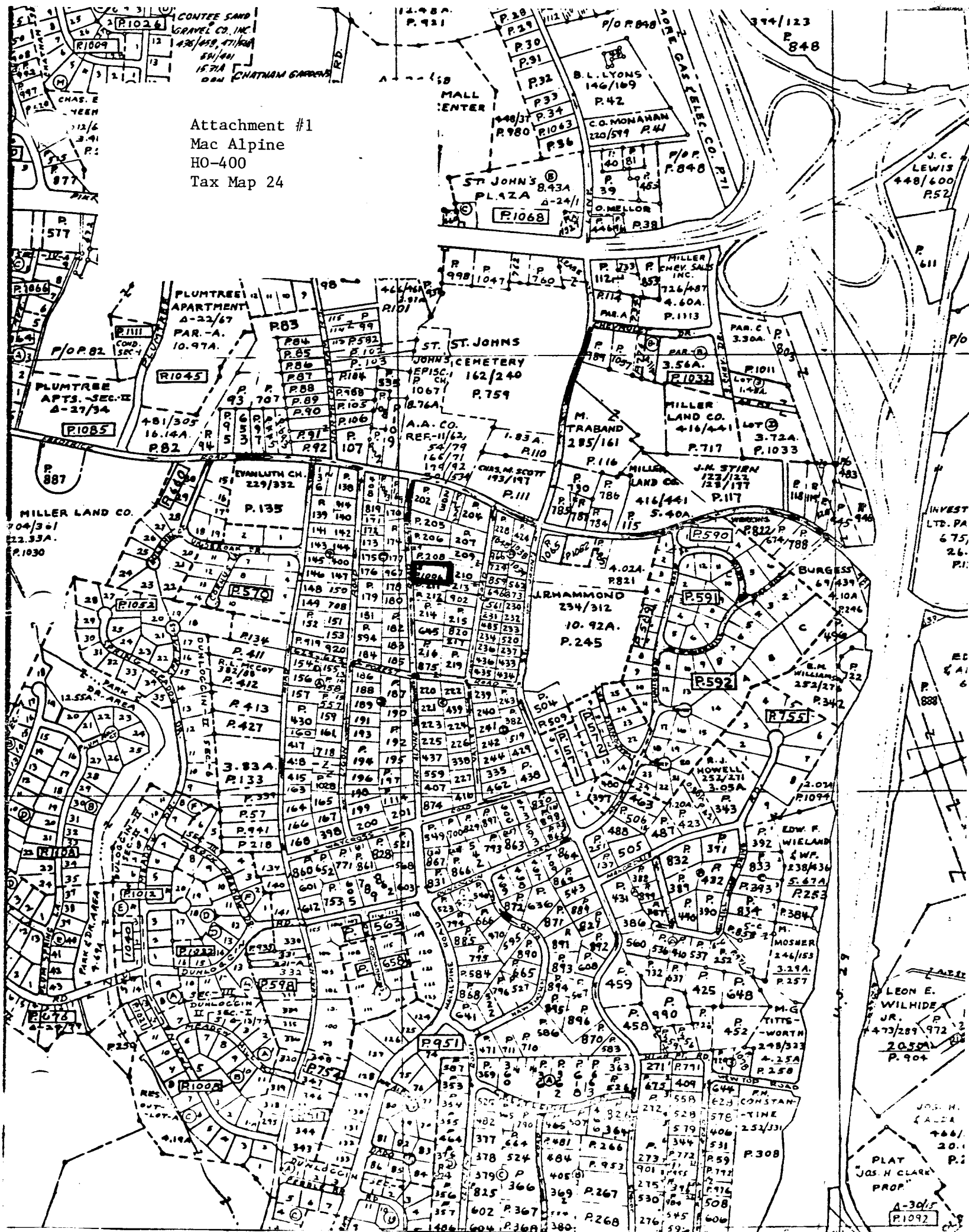
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

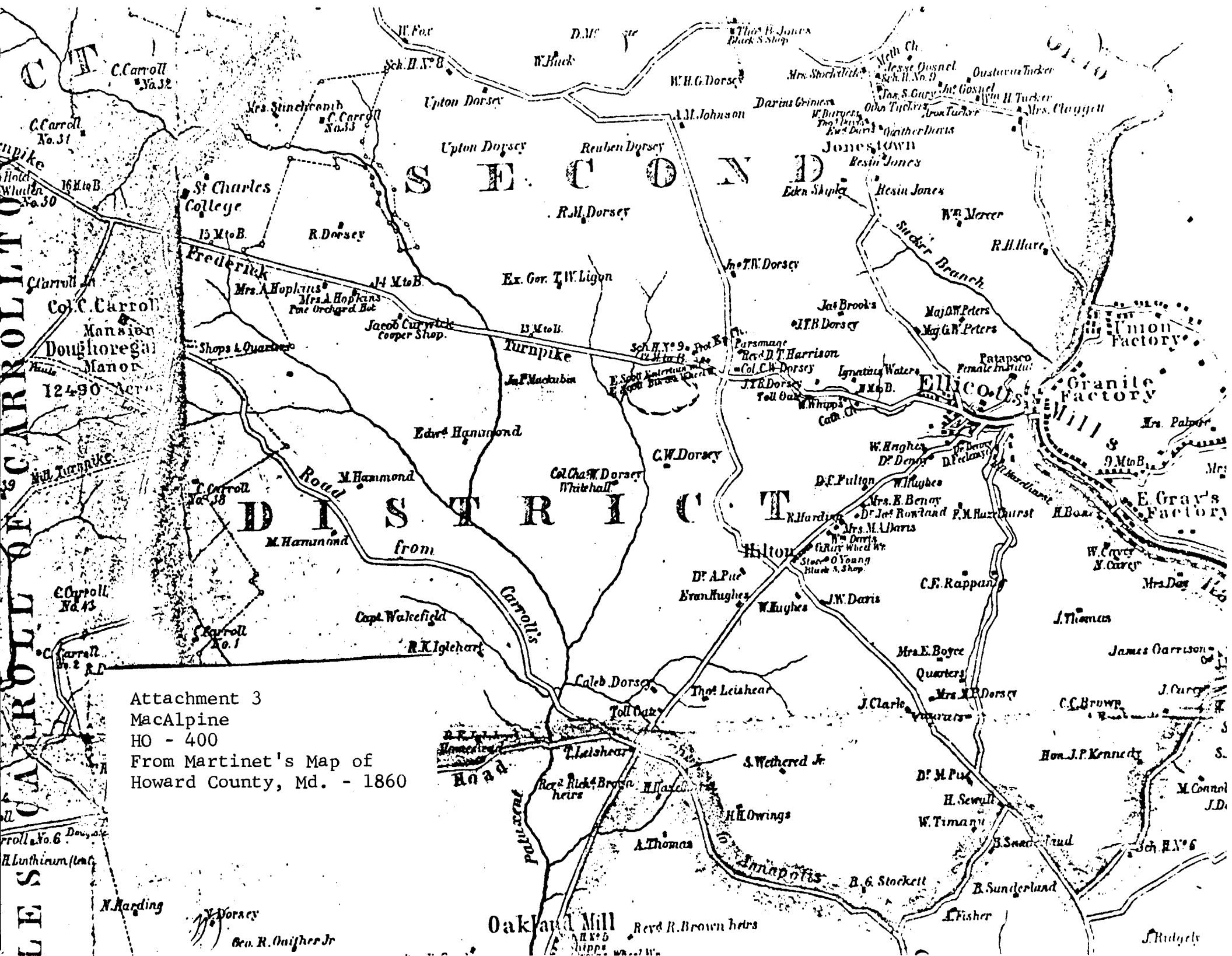
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



Attachment #1  
Mac Alpine  
HO-400  
Tax Map 24





Attachment 3  
MacAlpine  
HO - 400  
From Martinet's Map of  
Howard County, Md. - 1860

Oakland Mill  
Rev'd R. Brown heirs

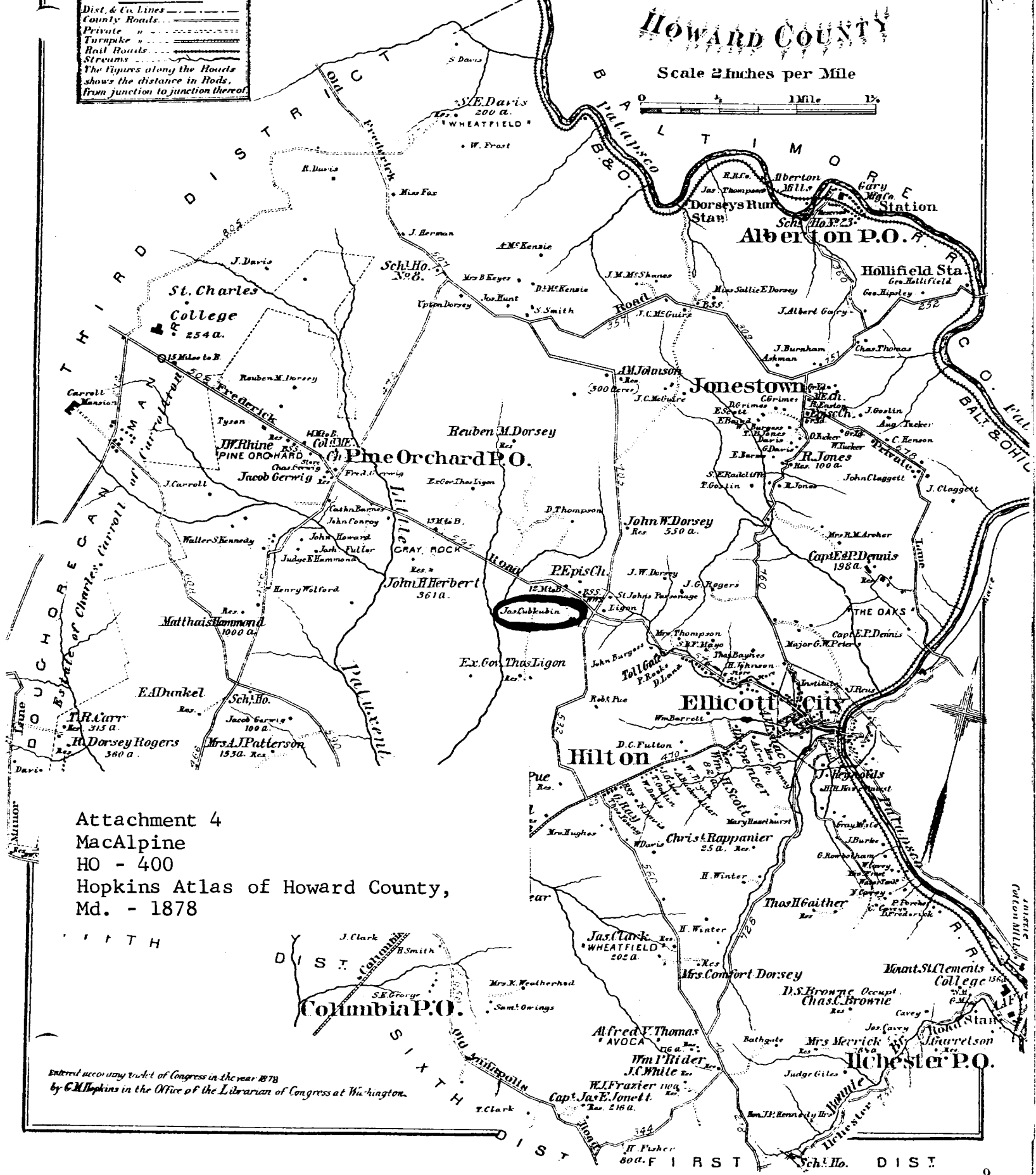
# (SECOND DISTRICT)

HOWARD COUNTY

Scale 2 inches per Mile

## EXPLANATIONS

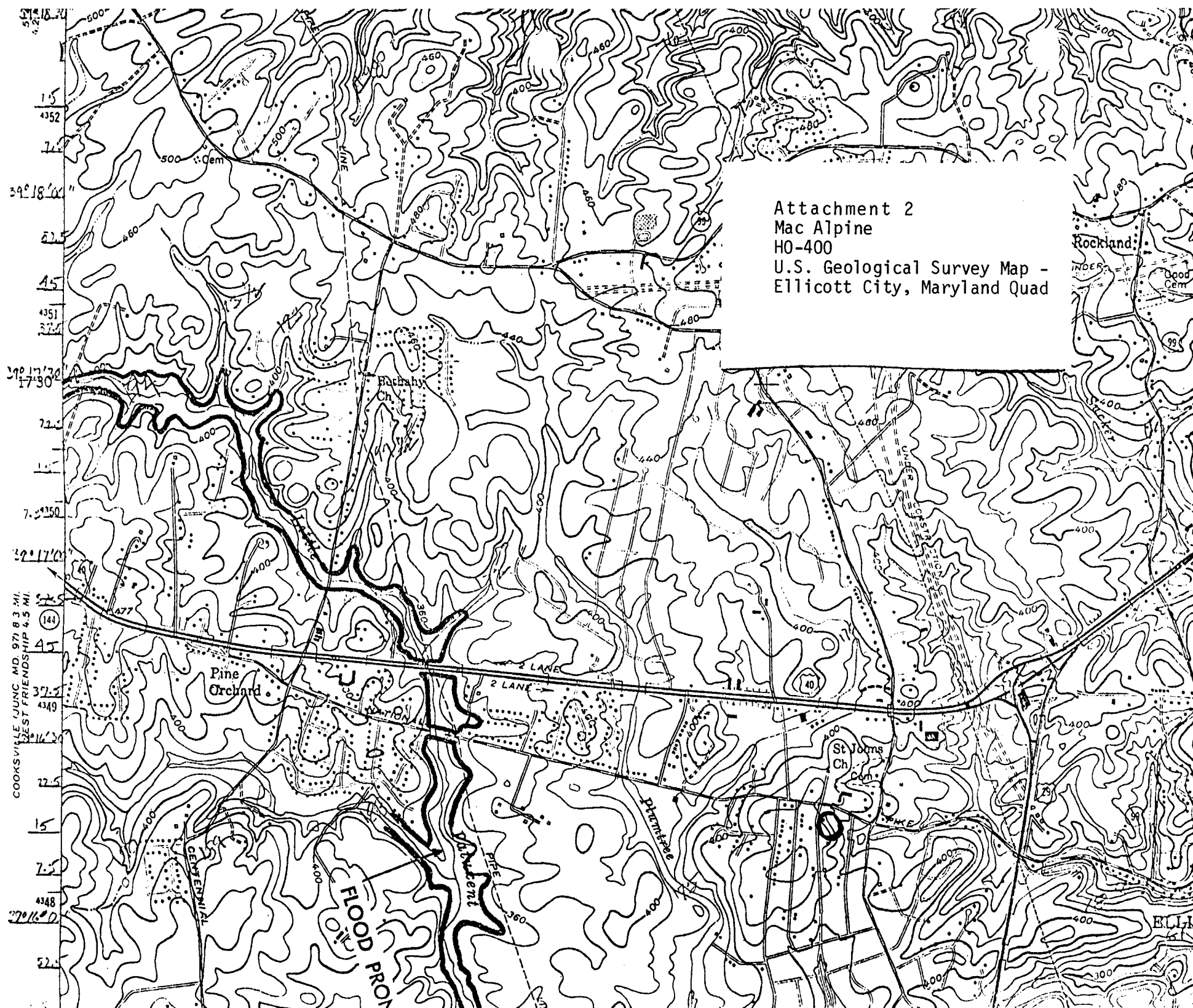
Dist. & Co. Lines  
County Roads  
Private  
Turnpike  
Rail Roads  
Streams  
The figures along the Roads  
shows the distance in Rods,  
from junction to junction thereof



Attachment 4  
MacAlpine  
HO - 400  
Hopkins Atlas of Howard County,  
Md. - 1878

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1878  
by G.M. Hopkins in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

Attachment 2  
Mac Alpine  
HO-400  
U.S. Geological Survey Map -  
Ellicott City, Maryland Quad





CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON  
PLANNING CONSULTANT  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY

Ho-400  
Mac Alpine  
West  
May, 1977